

For 75 years, this organization has dedicated itself to the betterment of Pinellas County's future, which lies in the hands of our community's children.

The Juvenile Welfare Board works with our county's children from an early age to ensure that both they, and their parents, caregivers, and family members receive a solid foundation on which to build their education. The Board's School Readiness program prepares children for their critical kindergarten education, which is crucial for their future success in the classroom. The JWB supports our county's youth throughout their education, with the programs they fund driving them to meet not only important developmental milestones but promoting behaviors and attitudes necessary for learning and engagement.

Beyond the classroom, the JWB works tirelessly to strengthen the communities from which our future leaders grow. Focusing on the mental health of our children is one of the Board's primary goals, making sure any type of mental illness is diagnosed and treated before it becomes an impediment for their future success. They also work to stop preventable deaths within the county, combating unsafe sleep practices for infants, child drowning, and head trauma, so that no family must deal with the tremendous loss of a child.

The JWB's mission also includes providing relief for the families of Pinellas County when they need it. From rental and food assistance, eviction prevention services, and helping with affordable childcare, the JWB ensures that any family that needs a helping hand is given one.

The Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County is a powerful example of the power we can have on our communities if we simply dare to try. Their efforts deserve veneration in this Congress, not only in appreciation of their efforts, but as an example of the power of community.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALS RESEARCH AT THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, as the son of a veteran, father of a veteran, and a veteran myself, I rise in support of important work being done at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regarding research and development of treatments for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and other neurodegenerative diseases.

This work is combining the capabilities of National Polytrauma Centers, like the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital in Tampa, Florida, with the expertise of the private sector to give hope to veterans who are battling these illnesses, everywhere.

Veterans are 60 percent more likely to be diagnosed with ALS compared to the general population.

More research needs to be done to understand the connection, which goes back at least 100 years, between military service and ALS, as well as to ensure we are able to achieve the best possible outcomes for our veterans.

I applaud the VA for continuing to make this a priority and look forward to seeing the potential of these partnerships.

HONORING CHIEF RAINER J. NAVARRO

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Rainer J. Navarro in celebration of his outstanding career in the Santa Rosa Police Department.

Chief Navarro was born in Lynwood, California, in 1969 to Rainer and Cecilia Navarro. He served in the United States Navy from 1987 to 1989. After his time in the Navy, he attended Santa Rosa Junior College and earned an associate of arts degree in 1991. He later earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration from Sonoma State University in 1996 and a master's degree in law enforcement and public safety from the University of San Diego in 2018.

Chief Navarro began his career in the Santa Rosa Police Department in 1992 as a patrol officer. In 2006, he was promoted to Sergeant and six years later, was again promoted. As a Lieutenant, he oversaw the Traffic and Special Events Bureau and served as Watch Commander. Chief Navarro made Captain in 2015 and supervised both the Special Services Division and Field Services Division. After over 25 years of service, the city named him Chief of the Santa Rosa Police Department in 2019.

Chief Navarro's personal values focus on his faith, family, and service. He volunteers with Special Olympics, Shop with a Cop, Roseland Unified School District, and Rosewood Gospel Mission. Chief Navarro also has served on the Santa Rosa Violence Prevention Partnership Policy Team, California Police Chiefs Association, CHOPS Teen Club Board of Directors, Social Advocates for Youth Board of Directors, and the Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council.

Chief Navarro has been a dedicated member of the Santa Rosa Bible Church. He married his high school sweetheart, Diedre, in 1989 and they have been happily married for 33 years. Together, they have two children, Trent and Alexa, and two grandchildren, Caspian and Griffin.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Chief Navarro has dedicated his life to serving the people of Santa Rosa through his career in law enforcement. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR CHARLOTTE WILCOX

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Charlotte Wilcox, the Mayor of the City of Highland Village, Texas. Mayor Wilcox is retiring following her seven-year long tenure in mayoral office, and almost two decades of

public service in Highland Village city government.

Mayor Wilcox and her family moved to Highland Village in 1995. In 2006, she was appointed to the city's Zoning and Development Commission, before being elected to Place 3 of the Highland Village City Council three years later. She served in this position until her fellow councilmembers appointed her to mayoral office in 2015 following the retirement of her predecessor. In May 2015, she was elected as Mayor, and due to term limitations, will conclude her service on the Highland Village City Council in May 2022.

Throughout her service in her public office, Mayor Wilcox has worked tirelessly for the economic and physical well-being of her constituency. She has been instrumental in ensuring funding for vital improvements to Highland Village's highway infrastructure, as well as the establishment of half a dozen parks and recreational facilities throughout the city. Thanks to Mayor Wilcox's efforts, many trails, parks, roads, and walkways have been constructed and expanded to maximize her city's quality of life.

Furthermore, Mayor Wilcox oversaw the opening of many new businesses and the remodeling of many older ones to strengthen and expand the City's tax base. Under her fiscal leadership, the city achieved a AAA Bond Rating.

Mayor Wilcox, in addition to overseeing the City's impressive record of financial stability and economic development, has also served as a strong advocate for Highland Village's highly esteemed city staff. Under her administration, the Council approved two new paid holidays and secured a competitive benefits package for city employees.

As Mayor Wilcox concludes her estimable tenure as Mayor, I join the residents and businesses of Highland Village in applauding her dedication to city improvement, governmental transparency, and community involvement. She has truly been a valuable contributor to our North Texas community, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER ON GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the participation of the El Paso Juvenile Justice Center in this year's Global Youth Service Day.

The El Paso Juvenile Center has dedicated the month of April 2022 to engage and educate local youth to speak out against violence in our El Paso community. Through events with stakeholders, leaders, and community members, our young people are creating solutions on how to prevent hate crimes and violence using art. They are concluding the month with paying tribute at the El Paso Healing Garden to the 23 victims who lost their life and the 22 injured victims of the horrific Walmart shooting of 2019.

I praise the work that the Juvenile Justice Center is doing to help our young people